

## **Options for Living Project**

# Vaccination Champions and Discharge Support Service

With funding from Plymouth Hospitals Charity, Living Options Devon is undertaking a user-led project called Options for Living that aims first, to increase vaccination uptake for isolated or vulnerable people or those disproportionally affected by Covid-19 and second, to improve hospital discharge pathways across Devon.

Living Options Devon will collaborate with partner organisations across the Integrated Care System for Devon to share the learning in relation to improving covid vaccination uptake and better discharge planning.

## Community Vaccination Champions

In order to reach and support specific demographic groups that may be more vulnerable to Covid-19 viruses and, for diverse reasons, have seen lower uptake of vaccination, representatives of those groups have been recruited to form a team of Community Vaccination Champions (CVCs).

Over 6 months the CVCs will consult users, identify barriers to vaccination or reasons for hesitancy and provide support to enable greater uptake of vaccination.

CVC for Autism Living Options Devon

CVC for BAME and LGBQT+ (Northern Devon)
Sunrise Diversity

CVC for BAME communities
Hikmat and PDREC

CVC for Deaf BSL users Living Options Devon

CVC for Disability Living Options Devon

CVC for Homeless people St Petrock's

CVC for LGBTQ+
Intercom Trust

CVC for Roma people and travellers
PDREC

The consultation involves individual discussion, focus groups, surveys and clinics at community events. Support may comprise; providing information in an appropriate format, peer support, signposting, linking to existing services and informing CCG/PCN of specific needs.

Overseen by Living Options
Devon the CVC team includes
local partner organisations
with specialist experience to
engage with our target groups.

The Vaccination Champions will seek to collaborate with established support groups across Devon to understand what similar work has been undertaken and discuss opportunities for further engagement with people who would like support with their vaccination choices.

### **Hospital Discharge Service**

The second element of the Options for Living Project is to establish a new Discharge Planning Service for Devon that will support people returning to the community from hospital or other care settings who define themselves as having a protected characteristic or are from a harder-to-reach group.

During the vaccination support work, CVCs will gather insight into experiences of hospital discharge that will inform a thorough user-led assessment of discharge support.

Living Options Devon will recruit Discharge Planning Officers to link up with community-based organisations that already support hospital discharge planning to develop clear referral pathways, share good practice and identify gaps in current provision.

The Discharge Planning
Service will be operational by
September 2023 and
Discharge Planning Officers
will manage a caseload of
patients, linking with NHS
teams, VCSE organisations,
professional therapists, social
workers and reablement
teams, to promote wellsupported discharge within an
Integrated Care System for
Devon.



Living Options Devon welcomes collaboration and contributions from Devon based organisations, to better understand and improve hospital discharge support and vaccination uptake among people with protected characteristics in Devon.

If you can help us please contact
Options for Living
via the Living Options Devon hub or website.

Call or Email

01392 459222 info@livingoptions.org

www.livingoptions.org







### **Living Options Devon**

Living Options Devon (LOD) is a charity and a company limited by guarantee founded over 25 years ago. Our vision is of fully informed, accessible and inclusive society in which every individual has the choice and opportunity to achieve their full potential and take part as an equal and valued citizen.

We exist to ensure people with physical and/or sensory disabilities and Deaf people with sign language can make an active and equal contribution in society. Specifically we:

Encourage people to feel more informed, valued and confident to take part in society through relevant training and support;

Enable people to identify priorities and develop user-led services;

Engage people in effective communication with local/ national service commissioners and providers; and

Empower people to raise awareness of what society needs to do to provide equality of opportunity both locally and nationally.

We believe in a fully accessible society where all people can enjoy the freedom of choice and equality of opportunity. We operate a culture of open communication, empowerment and development, where individual differences and abilities are respected and people are encouraged to achieve their full potential.

Donations made to support the NHS during the COVID19 pandemic are reaching local communities across Devon

Plymouth Hospitals Charity is the lead charity for Devon for the NHS Charities Together Community Partnership Grants Programme and has partnered with eight community organisations in Devon, to improve the health of communities adversely affected by COVID-19 and to help alleviate pressure on frontline NHS services whilst it responds to the pandemic both now and as we recover. The eight Delivery Partners will deliver a range of projects from September 2021. The funding will support these projects for two years.

www.plymouthhospitalscharity.co.uk Charity number: 1048679



Supported by Living Options Devon Registered Charity: 1102489

Call 01392 459222

www.livingoptions.org

info@livingoptions.org